sion has not been indicated in the news item. The report on Scientific Studies on the factors related to Bhopal Toxic Gas Leakage, on the basis of analysis of the residue found in the tanks. and experiments on producing the constituents of the residue, has surmised the temperature may have been around 250°C. In experiments on subjecting MIC to heating, the Report on Scientific Studies, has recorded that in the presence of chloroform, cyanide formation has not been detected and that chloroform may inhibit the breakdown of MIC to hydrogen cyanide.

Installation of Satellite Terminals

1983. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to set up a few small satellite terminals in the strategic hilly and remote areas of the country to provide them an effective telecommunication link; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) Yes, Sir. A number of proposals are under consideration for setting up of small earth stations in hilly, and remote areas of the country during the Seventh Plan period.

(b) The approved schemes include provision of earth stations at the following places:—

A. *Earth Stations in Remote, Backward and Hilly Areas*

1	Doda	J&K State
2	Rajouri	
3	Poonch	All Hilly areas.
	Kargil	
5	Phool Bani	Orissa State (Hilly & Backward)
6	Keylong	Himachal Pradesh (Hilly & Backward)
7	Kalpa	
8	Zero	Arunachal Pradesh All Backward areas.
9	Deporizo	
10	Seppa	
11	Aalo	
12	Jaisalmer	(Rajasthan (Backward)
13	Srinagar (Garhwal)	UP Hilly Areas
14	Joshimath	
15	Uttarkashi	
16	Campbell Bay	Andaman & Nicobar Islands
17	Diglipur	
18	Mayabunder	

B. 26 earth stations in the North-East region. The actual locations are under finalisation.

C. 10 Transportable earth stations. These will be capable of deployment anywhere in the country.

Technology Mission on Silicon

†1984. PROF. B. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a technology mission on amorphous silicon, the latest development in high technology semi-conductor devices and photovoltaics has been set up by several institutions in Delhi;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that a pilot plant is proposed to be set up in Delhi to try out these technologies as well as prepare the country to adopt and improve upon technology developments in foreign countries in this high technical material; and

†Previously Unstarred Question 1789, transferred from the 13th March, 1986.

(d) if so, the details thereof and what will be the composition of multi-disciplinary group for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) and (b) The Department of Non-Conventional Energy Sources is implementing an integrated programme of research and development on amorphous silicon solar cells. The programme is being executed through the following seven academic and R&D Institutions.

Indian Institute of Technology Delhi; National Physical Laboratory, Delhi, Indian Association for Cultivation of Science, Calcutta; University of Poona; Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore; Indian Institute of Technology, Madras; and Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur. The projects cover various aspects such as fabrication, characterization and study of various electrical and optical properties of thin films used for amorphous silicon solar cells, as also the preparation of silane gas which is an input material. The total outlay of these projects is about Rs. 2.2 crores over a five year period.

(c) and (d) The Department of Non-Conventional Energy Sources proposes to set up a pilot plant for the production of amorphous silicon solar cells which will also serve as a facility to try out promising developments arising from the integrated R&D programme. The Department has obtained information from several foreign firms for establishing the pilot plant. This information is being studied by a committee of experts set up by the Department. No other multidisciplinary group has been set up for the pilot plant.

Production of semi-coke

1985. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any tests have been carried out to produce semi-coke from a section of Talcher Coal field, Orissa;

(b) if so, the action taken thereafter;

(c) whether Government had a proposal to set up a commercial plant at Talcher for production of semi-coke;

(d) if so, the steps taken to implement that proposal; and

(e) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Tests were carried out by the Industrial Development Corporation of Orissa to ascertain the suitability of Talcher coal for the production of semi-coke.

(c) According to available information a developmental project for production of 300 tonnes per day of formed coke for use in steel plants was considered but was given up on grounds of adverse economics.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

Tenders for on-shore Drilling

1986. SHRI DHULESHWAR MEENA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that the oil India Ltd. had floated global tenders for on-shore drilling during last year;

(b) if so, the number of offers received from different blocks for drilling; and

(c) the particulars of officers accepted, block-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 21 Offers were received, out of which 15 were from W. Germany Australia, Mexico and Hungary.

(c) No contract has been awarded as yet.